

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented): A method of logging a user of a computer system out of affiliated servers, the method comprising:

providing a first cookie to a browser on the computer system being used by the user, the first cookie maintaining a list of affiliated servers having sites visited by the user following an authentication of the user;

receiving one or more second cookies at the browser as the user visits sites on the affiliated servers following the authentication, the second cookies containing data associated with the corresponding affiliated servers;

selecting a single logout link via the browser, wherein the logout link is contained on any of the sites that the user has visited on the affiliated servers;

as a result of the selecting, issuing by the browser a request for obtaining data from the affiliated servers based on the list maintained with the first cookie;

in response to the request for data issued by the browser, sending, by the affiliated servers, to the browser, cookie setting information and an image which is indicative of successful logout;

in response to receiving the cookie setting information by the browser, clearing the second cookies from the browser by changing settings of the second cookies in accordance with the cookie setting information, wherein the user is logged out of the

affiliated servers having sites visited by the user following the authentication by selection of the single logout link.

2. - 5. (Canceled)

6. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 1 wherein the second cookies are expired by the browser in response to the cookie setting information to log the user out of the affiliated servers having the sites that the user visited.

7. (Currently Amended): A computer readable storage medium having a program stored thereon for causing a computer to implement a method of logging a user of a computer system ~~user~~-out of affiliated servers, the method comprising:

providing a first cookie to a browser on the computer system being used by the user, the first cookie for maintaining a list of affiliated servers having sites visited by the user following an authentication of the user;

receiving one or more second cookies at the browser as the user visits sites on the affiliated servers following the authentication, the second cookies containing data associated with the corresponding affiliated servers;

selecting a single logout link via the browser, wherein the logout link is contained on any of the sites that the user has visited on the affiliated servers;

as a result of the selecting, issuing by the browser a request for obtaining data from the affiliated servers based on the list maintained with the first cookie;

in response to the request for data issued by the browser, sending, by the affiliated servers, cookie setting information and an image to the browser which is indicative of a successful logout;

in response to receiving the cookie setting information by the browser, clearing the second cookies from the browser by changing settings of the second cookies based on the cookie setting information.

8. (Previously Presented): The computer readable storage medium of claim 7 wherein the request for data from the affiliated servers is issued by the browser during rendering of a logout page on the browser.

9. (Previously Presented): The computer readable storage medium of claim 7 wherein the user is logged out of the affiliated servers having sites visited by the user by selection of the single logout link.

10. (Previously Presented): A method of logging a user of a computer system out of affiliated servers comprising:

receiving one or more cookies at a browser on the computer system as the user visits sites on the affiliated servers following an authentication of the user, wherein the one or more cookies contain data provided to the browser from corresponding one or more affiliated servers;

requesting a logout page via the browser, wherein a logout link to the logout page is contained on at least one site that the user has visited on an affiliated server following the authentication of the user;

providing a link to an expire cookies page hosted on each affiliated server having a site visited by the user following the authentication;

calling by the browser, during rendering of the logout page by the browser, the link to the expire cookies page on each affiliated server;

sending cookie setting information from each affiliated server to the browser in response to receiving the call from the browser, the cookie setting information changing settings of the cookies to cause the browser to expire the cookies .

11. (Currently Amended): A system for logging a user of a computer system ~~user-out~~ of affiliated servers comprising:

one or more processors;

one or more computer readable storage media coupled to the one or more processors, wherein the one or more processors are configured to execute modules including:

a first module providing a browser on the computer system that receives one or more cookies as the user visits sites on the affiliated servers following an authentication of the user, wherein the one or more cookies contain data provided to the browser from corresponding one or more affiliated servers, wherein the browser issues a request for a logout page, wherein a logout link to the logout page is contained on at least one site on the affiliated servers that the user has visited following an authentication of the user by an authentication server; and

a second module that provides a link to an expire cookies page on each affiliated server that, when called by the browser, causes each affiliated server to clear cookies

on the browser by sending cookie setting information to the browser, the cookie setting information changing settings of the cookies to cause the browser to expire the cookies,

wherein the cookies include data provided to the browser from an associated one of the affiliated servers, and

wherein the data contains at least one of:

a date and time that the user is authenticated by an authentication server,

and

a profile for the user.

12. (Previously Presented): The system of claim 11 further comprising a visited sites cookie for maintaining a list of affiliated servers that the user has visited following the authentication.

13. (Previously Presented): The system of claim 12 wherein the list of affiliated servers is used to identify the link to each expire cookies page on each affiliated server.

14. (Currently Amended): The system of claim 11 wherein the request for a logout page causes the logout page to be rendered by the browser, the logout page directing the browser to link to the expire cookies page on each affiliated server.

15. (Previously Presented): A computer readable storage medium having a program stored thereon for causing a computer to implement a method of logging a user of a computer system out of affiliated servers, comprising:

receiving a request for a logout page via a browser on the computer system, wherein a logout link to the logout page is contained on at least one site on the affiliated servers that the user has visited following an authentication of the user, wherein following the authentication, cookies are provided to the browser as the user visits sites on the affiliated servers, wherein the cookies contain data provided to the browser from corresponding affiliated servers;

providing a link to an expire cookies page on each affiliated server having a site visited by the user that when called by the browser as a result of requesting the logout page, causes each affiliated server to clear cookies on the browser by sending cookie setting information to the browser, the cookie setting information changing settings of the cookies to cause the browser to expire the cookies.

16. - 17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously Presented): A method of logging out of affiliated domain servers on a network, the method performed by a browser implemented on a computer, the method comprising:

receiving one or more cookies at the browser as a user visits sites on the affiliated servers following an authentication of the user by an authentication server, wherein the one or more cookies contain data provided to the browser from the authentication server;

requesting a logout page from the authentication server by selecting a logout link, wherein the logout link is on at least one site on the affiliated domain servers that a user of the browser has visited following the authentication;

receiving image tags from the authentication server with the logout page, each image tag causing the browser to fetch an image from a URL identified by the image tag during rendering of the logout page;

in response to the image tags, issuing get image requests to the URLs identified by the image tags;

receiving cookie setting information and images at the browser from the affiliated domain servers hosting the URLs identified by the image tags in response to the get image requests, the cookie setting information clearing cookies identified by responses to the get image requests, wherein the clearing is carried out by changing settings of the cookies in accordance with the cookie setting information; and

rendering the images received with the cookie setting information in the responses from the affiliated domain servers for inclusion in the logout page displayed by the browser.

19. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 18 wherein the images comprise an image of a checkmark for indicating successful logout from a corresponding one of the affiliated servers.

20. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 18 wherein the image tags ensure that the image will not be retrieved from cache.

21. (Original): The method of claim 18 wherein the image tag includes a query.

22. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 18 wherein the affiliated domain servers logged into are identified in a visited sites data structure.

23. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 22 wherein the data structure comprises a visited sites cookie provided to the browser by the authentication server.

24. (Previously Presented): A method of logging a user of a computer system out of affiliated servers comprising:

receiving one or more cookies at a browser on the computer system as the user visits sites on the affiliated servers following an authentication of the user, the cookies containing data provided to the browser from an authentication server;

requesting a logout page, wherein a logout link for the logout page is on at least one site on the affiliated servers that the user has visited following an authentication of the user;

providing a link to an expire cookies page hosted on each affiliated server, said link being in the form of an image tag included in the logout page;

calling each link by the browser in response to encountering the image tags in the logout page;

in response to the calling of each link, sending cookie setting information with an image sent to the browser by each affiliated server having a site that the user has visited following the authentication to clear cookies on the browser, the cookie setting information changing settings of the cookies to cause the browser to expire the cookies.

25. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 24 wherein a data structure of visited sites is maintained identifying the affiliated servers that are visited by the user following the authentication.

26. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 25 wherein the data structure is a visited sites cookie provided to the browser by the authentication server.

27. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 24 wherein the logout link is provided on one or more of multiple servers logged into through the affiliated servers, one of the affiliated servers, and the authentication server.

28. (Original): The method of claim 24 wherein the cookies comprise user personal information.

29. - 30. (Canceled)

31. (Previously Presented): A method of generating a logout page for display on a browser used to log a user of a computer system out of affiliated servers, the method comprising:

obtaining a visited sites data file which identifies each affiliated server logged into having a site visited following an authentication of the user;

generating a plurality of image tags based on the visited sites data file, each image tag corresponding to one of the affiliated servers;

providing a URL in each image tag that causes an affiliated server associated with the image tag to clear cookies from the browser by sending cookie setting information for changing settings of the cookies to cause the cookies to be deleted by the browser, the cookie setting information being sent to the browser with an image sent to the browser by the corresponding affiliated server in response to receipt of an image fetch request sent by the browser when the browser encounters the image tag,

wherein the cookies deleted include data provided to the browser from an associated one of the affiliated servers, and

generating the logout page by the browser by including the images received by the browser from the affiliated servers in the logout page .

32. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 31 wherein each image tag contains a query string parameter causing the browser to fetch an image from the affiliated server corresponding to the image tag as a separate image fetching transaction.

33. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the request for data from the affiliated servers is issued by the browser during rendering of a logout page on the browser, wherein the logout page is received by the browser as a result of selecting the logout link.

34. (Previously Presented): The computer-readable medium of claim 7, wherein the data contains at least one of:

a date and time that the user is authenticated by an authentication server, and
a profile for the user.

35. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 10, wherein the data contains at least one of:

- a date and time that the user is authenticated by an authentication server,
- a profile for the user, and
- a list of sites visited by the user following the authentication, wherein the sites include web servers.

36. (Previously Presented): The computer-readable medium of claim 15, wherein the data contains at least one of:

- a date and time that the user is authenticated by an authentication server,
- a profile for the user, and
- a list of sites visited by the user following the authentication, wherein the sites include web servers.

37. - 38. (Canceled)

39. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 18, wherein the data contains at least one of:

- a date and time that the user is authenticated by an authentication server,
- a profile for the user, and
- a list of sites visited by the user following the authentication, wherein the sites include web servers.

40. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 24, wherein the data contains at least one of:

a date and time that the user is authenticated by an authentication server,

a profile for the user, and

a list of sites visited by the user following the authentication, wherein the sites include web servers.

41. (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 1, further including steps of:

hosting by each affiliated server a URL used for retiring cookies during logging out of the user;

directing the request for data issued by the browser to the URL for retiring cookies for each affiliated server having a site that the user has visited following the authentication; and

sending, by the affiliated servers receiving the request, the image and a set cookie header including the cookie setting information for changing the settings of the second cookies for clearing the second cookies.

42. (Previously Presented): A method of logging a computer system user out of affiliated servers comprising steps of:

authenticating a user to visit sites on the affiliated servers by an authentication server associated with the affiliated servers;

providing a first cookie to a browser being used by the user, the first cookie for maintaining a list of affiliated servers having sites visited by the user following the authentication of the user, wherein as the user visits sites on the affiliated servers

following the authentication, second cookies containing data associated with the corresponding affiliated servers are stored by the browser;

selecting, by the user via the browser, a single logout link, wherein the logout link is contained on any site that the user has visited on the affiliated servers or the authentication server following the authentication;

receiving the selection of the logout link at the authentication server;

generating a plurality of image tags based on the first cookie maintaining the list of sites visited following the authentication, each image tag corresponding to one of the affiliated servers;

providing the image tags in a logout page to be rendered by the browser;

rendering the logout page on the browser of the user;

in response to encountering the image tags in the logout page by the browser, generating a plurality of image requests by the browser during rendering of the logout page based on the list of affiliated servers maintained by the first cookie, each image request corresponding to one of the affiliated servers listed in the list of affiliated servers;

sending the image requests by the browser to URLs hosted by the corresponding affiliated servers, wherein each URL is for an expire cookies page on each affiliated server that, when called by the browser, causes each affiliated server to clear cookies on the browser by sending cookie setting information and an image to the browser;

in response to sending the image requests, receiving at the browser from each affiliated server receiving the image request, an image identified by the image request and cookie setting information;

changing settings of the second cookies in response to the cookie setting information to cause the second cookies to be expired by the browser, wherein expiration of the second cookies causes the user to be logged out of the affiliated servers having sites visited by the user following the authentication;

completing rendering of the logout page by the browser by incorporating the images received from the affiliated servers in the rendered logout page.